

Fair tonight and Wednesday.
Light northerly winds, becoming
variable.

The Evening Times

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SWANSON TALKS FOR CUBAN RECIPROCITY

Argues in Favor of the
Committee's Bill.

WAS BOMBARDED WITH QUESTIONS

Declaration of American Pur-
poses to the Islanders,
He Says.

MR. DAYTON GIVES HIS VIEWS

Says He Has No Apology to Make for
His Opposition to the Bill—William
Alden Smith Has a Colloquy With the
Virginian.

At the opening of the session of the House today, before the House went into committee of the whole, the Cuban reciprocity bill, Mr. Payne (Rep., N. Y.) in charge of the measure, made a further unsuccessful attempt to close general debate on Thursday, with eight and one-half hours' sessions Wednesday and Thursday, and to report the bill to the House at 4 o'clock Friday.

Mr. Richardson, the Democratic leader, objected, and Mr. Payne gave notice that at the first opportunity he should move to limit debate.

The first speaker was Mr. Swanson (Dem., Va.), in support of the bill. With Messrs. Richardson and McClellan, he voted in Committee of Ways and Means to report the bill. He challenged the beet sugar Republicans to stand by the Democrats, who would vote as a unit for an amendment to remove the differential on refined sugar when the bill came up for passage.

The Democrats, he said, had agreed to this, but had failed to state the fact of the agreement for the purpose of leading the Republicans to stand by the Democrats, who would vote as a unit for an amendment to remove the differential on refined sugar when the bill came up for passage.

Mr. Swanson said the bill proceeded upon the Democratic theory for relieving distress, and he did not see how any of his political colleagues could oppose it. He was bombarded with questions by Messrs. Wheeler (Dem., Ky.), Bartlett (Dem., Ga.), and others as to how the operations of the bill would confer a benefit upon the Cuban planters, how it would increase trade with Cuba, and what assurances there were that the proposition would be accepted by the Cuban government.

The bill, Mr. Swanson replied, was the declaration of the purposes and desires of the American Congress, and if the Cuban government did not accept it our duty would have been done. As to the increase of trade between the United States and Cuba, Mr. Swanson said that if this country could not control the trade of that island with a preferential 20 per cent it ought not to, for that fact demonstrated that our prices were too exorbitant.

Mr. Swanson discussed at length rates and schedules to show that the sugar industry in this country would not be injured by the proposed reduction. Referring to the differential on refined sugar he said that he would vote to strike it out and if the beet sugar men would join the Democrats it would go off.

William Alden Smith, of Michigan, said the beet sugar men were protectionists and would not vote for that proposition. The beet sugar men, he said, refined their own product, and did not propose to open the markets of the United States to foreign refined sugar to their own detriment.

Mr. Swanson said that if the bill passed you will be ruined anyhow? Why don't you, like Samson, strike a final blow at the Sugar Trust and pull down its temple about its head?

Mr. Smith—I didn't say ruined. I said would be crippled.

Mr. Swanson said he expected to stand by the proposition to strike off the differential through all the ups and downs of the bill to its final passage. The measure, he said, was a movement in the direction of tariff reform which General Crockett had warned the House was coming and he intended to array himself with the forces that were making for that greatly-to-be-desired end.

"As a Republican and a protectionist," said Mr. Dayton (Rep., W. Va.) I have no apology to make for any opposition to this bill after listening to the remarks of the gentleman who has just taken his seat."

It had never been a part of his political belief, he said, that the revenue should be reduced to strike down industries. He had seen the effects of Democratic legislation, and wanted no more of it.

**CAR CONDUITS FOR
ELECTRIC LIGHT WIRES**

Senate Joint Resolution to Give Companies New Authority.

A proposition to enable the electric light companies of the District to make connections between their conduits and the conduits of the street railway, for the purpose of utilizing the latter for the conveyance of electric light currents, is embodied in a joint resolution introduced in the Senate today by Senator McMillan.

The present law does not allow such connection between conduits, and it has prevented the furnishing of light to many residences which wished it, where the law also forbids the building of new conduits.

MAJOR PRUDEN'S CONDITION.

Physicians Report a Slight Change for the Worse.

Major O. L. Pruden, assistant secretary to the President, was reported by his physicians at Garfield Hospital this afternoon to have grown slightly worse. A fatal termination is not looked for, however.

Major Pruden slept well until 4 o'clock this morning, having responded readily to the opiates administered to him last night. He has been quite restless during the morning.

Pension Agent at New York.

The President today sent to the Senate the nomination of Michael Kerwin, to be pension agent at New York.

MINISTRY DEBATES BOER PROPOSITIONS

No Announcement of Meeting's Result Is Issued.

OUTLOOK IS DEEMED GLOOMY

Report Says That New Difficulties Have
Arisen in the British-Boer Negotiations,
and Government Is Not Confident
of the Outcome of Them.

LONDON, April 15.—The cabinet met today for the purpose of considering the Boer reply to the British communication which was sent to South Africa in answer to the Boer note of Saturday.

The latest Boer communication was received yesterday. Secretary of War Brodrick, who was reported yesterday as suffering from a chill, was present. The only absentees were Earl Cadogan, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and Lord Ashbourne, lord chancellor of Ireland.

The cabinet dispersed at 1:30 after a session of an hour and a half. The various ministers proceeded to their respective offices before attending the afternoon session of Parliament.

In the House of Commons Mr. A. J. Balfour, the government leader, later said the government had no information to impart at present as to peace in South Africa, nor could it have for a while. As soon as any news was received it would be communicated to the House.

COLOGNE, April 15.—The "Gazette" today publishes a London telegram which states that difficulties have arisen in the South African peace negotiations over questions of amnesty, with which is coupled a demand for guarantees in regard to the general laying down of arms, as the Cape rebels are not willing to quit unless they have certain assurances.

"The British government," the telegram adds, "is not confident of the finality of the present negotiations."

ENGLISH CREW WIPED OUT BY BURSTING GUN

Eight Sailors and Two Lieu-
tenants Killed.

FOUR OTHERS WERE WOUNDED

QUEENSTOWN, April 15.—The British warship Mars, which arrived here today, reports that one of her twelve-inch barbette rifles burst during practice off Berehaven yesterday, practically annihilating the entire gun crew.

Two lieutenants and eight men were killed instantly, and four men badly wounded.

The wounded men were taken to the Queenstown Hospital.

The force of the explosion was terrific and seriously damaged the neighboring parts of the vessel.

Lieutenant Bourne, the gunnery officer, and one of the men killed by the explosion, were blown overboard.

The scene around the bursted gun was terrible.

Dead and wounded men lay in a heap, many of the latter horribly disfigured.

**NEW TRUSTEES ASKED
BY A LOCAL SYNDICATE**

Owners of River Front Prop-
erty in Court.

A bill in equity was filed today by Samuel G. Cornell, John H. Magruder, Jefferson B. Cralle, and eight other persons, shareholders in a syndicate owning interest in property on the river front in Georgetown, against Allan C. Clark, Augustus Burdett, and William Mayse, as trustees, and others interested in said property, for the purpose of having new trustees appointed to execute the trusts vested and to require the trustees to render an accounting of the moneys received by them.

It is alleged that in February, 1892, the defendants Clark, Burdett, and Mayse took title to said property as trustees for the twenty contributors mentioned in a deed conveying the property to them, each of whom paid \$1,000. The price of the property was \$56,049, each of said contributors receiving a certificate from the trustees showing his interest in the property.

It is charged that the trustees have neglected their duty, and that they have not rendered proper accounts of their trust, that defendant Mayse left the city and is unable to perform the duties imposed upon him; that for some years defendant Burdett managed the property, and that defendant Clark has never given the matter any attention.

The bill asks that new trustees be appointed to execute the trusts created, and that the present trustees be required to render an account in court for all the moneys they have received, showing the receipts and expenditures thereof. Attorneys Jefferson B. Cralle and Wharton E. Lester are named as counsel for the complainants.

IN FAVOR OF INDIANA.

The State to Get \$36,000 Spent on Account of Spanish War.

The Comptroller of the Treasury will soon render a decision holding that the State of Indiana is entitled to recover \$36,000 on war claims under legislation recently enacted permitting the claims of several States to be reopened.

The amount mentioned was expended by the State government for the equipment of Indiana troops at the outbreak of the Spanish-American war.

SOCIALISTS' BACKBONE DECLARED NOW BROKEN

Belgian Deputy Tells of Gov-
ernment Coup.

MUCH QUIETER IN BRUSSELS

Everybody Anxiously Awaiting Action of
Parliament Upon Demand of the So-
cialists—Two Hundred Thousand
Workmen Said to Be Involved in Strike

ANTWERP, April 15.—A deputy this morning, before he started to attend the meeting of the chamber, gave out an interview, from which it may be deduced that the government has succeeded in breaking the backbone of the Socialistic agitation.

The deputy stated that the government has obtained enough votes to pass a provisional ten-twelfth budget, which will enable them to prorogue Parliament at any moment.

The Socialists are keenly disappointed. Their only weapon left is the inauguration of a general strike in favor of universal suffrage.

It is too late, however, for such a move to have any effect, as if Parliament is prorogued this week it will not meet again until November.

The city is quieter today than it has been at any time since the rioting began. Everybody is waiting with anxiety the Parliament's action on the demands of the Socialists, and on this reply depends whether or not quiet will be permanently restored.

There is an uneasy feeling apparent in the strike centers, and the government is redoubling precautions against an uprising in those places.

The pupils of several schools have been dismissed, and the police are now using the schools as barracks.

The owners of the Valere and Mabile mines have issued notices, closing the mines until May 5. This action will be generally taken by other mine owners.

A meeting of workmen was held at the Maison du Peuple, Defnet, Van Der Velde, Delpoite, and other leaders counseled the people to maintain calmness in the streets but to put forth all their strength in carrying on the strike.

It is said that there are now nearly 200,000 workmen out on strike.

In the riots at Huy, Namur, and Thulin last evening one gendarme was killed and several wounded.

The funerals of the men killed in the recent riots here will be held at 6 o'clock tomorrow morning. All the Socialists in Brussels will be in the cortege.

The "Etoile Belge" states that a meeting of the cabinet was held yesterday at Laeken Castle to consider the situation caused by the Socialistic agitation for universal suffrage. King Leopold presided.

MR. CANNON ON THE REPEAL OF WAR TAXES

No Danger of a Reduction in
the Treasury Surplus.

Chairman of the Committee on Approp-
riations Says the Decrease Will
Not Exceed \$30,000,000.

Representative Cannon, chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, called on the President this morning.

Mr. Cannon said that the repeal of the war taxes would not necessarily greatly reduce the surplus of Government receipts over expenditures during the next fiscal year. He had examined very carefully, he said, the probable effect on the Treasury and although he appreciates the difficulty of making an accurate forecast, he believed there would still be a surplus of many millions next year.

Last year when certain war taxes were repealed it was predicted that the Government receipts would be reduced as a consequence to the extent of \$40,000,000 during the fiscal year. The present indications are, however, that the loss on this account will not exceed \$30,000,000.

Mr. Cannon believes that this experience, on account of continued good times, may be repeated next year.

MRS. ROOSEVELT A MEMBER.

President's Wife Connected With S. A.
V. Veterans' Auxiliary.

Among the many distinguished women who have become active and honorary members of Mary A. Babcock Auxiliary, No. 1, to Henry W. Lawton Command, No. 38, Spanish War Veterans, District of Columbia, are Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, as an honorary member, and Mrs. Ann Griddle, mother of Capt. Charles Griddle, the late commander of the Olympia, as an active member.

BISHOP HURST'S ILLNESS.

Venerable Patient's Condition Slightly
Improved Today.

The condition of Bishop John F. Hurst, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who has been seriously ill at his residence, No. 1707 Connecticut Avenue for about a week, was reported this morning to be slightly improved.

The improvement, however, is not of a sufficient nature to allay the fears of his family and friends regarding the outcome of his illness.

Bishop Hurst's sons, who have been out of the city, have been summoned home.

POPULAR ELECTIONS BILL NOW DOOMED

Senate Committee Adopts the
Depew Amendment.

IS SURE TO ALIENATE VOTES

Final Action Deferred Until Next Meet-
ing—How Strength of Measure Is Af-
fected—Tillman-McLaurin Question
Not Considered.

A deathblow was delivered today to the proposition for the election of Senators by popular vote, by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections. After a session of two hours the committee adopted by a party vote the amendment offered by Mr. Depew to the House resolution, proposing an amendment to the Constitution on the subject of the popular election of Senators.

Mr. Depew's amendment is as follows: "The qualifications of citizens entitled to vote for United States Senators and Representatives in Congress shall be uniform in all the States, and Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation, and to provide for the registration of citizens entitled to vote, the conduct of such elections, and the certification of the result."

This proposition would disqualify from participation in the elections the citizens of those States, especially in the South, where property or educational qualifications are required of the citizens before they are permitted to cast their votes.

It will, of course, meet the determined opposition of all of the Representatives of the States which have such provisions in their constitution, and means the defeat of the House resolution.

Action upon the main question was postponed until next week. It is thought to be possible that the Republicans on the committee will decide to report the resolution favorably with this amendment, but if this is done it will be simply for the purpose of having it voted down in the Senate. The Republicans are no more in favor of the popular election idea than they were a week ago.

The committee took no action on the Tillman-McLaurin matter today, and will not do so until the popular election question is disposed of.

PACIFIC COAST VIEWS ON CHINESE EXCLUSION

Many Telegrams Presented
to the Senate.

WIDE DIFFERENCE OF OPINION

Consideration of the Chinese exclusion bill was resumed in the Senate today upon the conclusion of routine morning business. Mr. Gallinger of New Hampshire presented and read numerous telegrams and letters received on the subject by the President pro tem.

The first was from certain lawyers in San Francisco, denying statements made before the Committee on Immigration by Mr. Dunn, chief inspector of the Chinese bureau at that port. Others were from San Francisco, Seattle, New York, and South Carolina, favoring the Platt substitute, continuing the present law till 1904.

When Mr. Gallinger had concluded, Mr. Perkins (Rep., Cal.) said that he would present the antidote to that poison, and he thereupon proceeded to read telegrams presenting the opposite side of the question. Two others, supplementing those read by Mr. Perkins, were presented by Mr. Patterson (Dem., Cal.) and were read by the clerk. They had reference to the exclusion of Chinese from employment on ocean steamships.

At this point the Senate proceeded to executive business, the executive session lasting only a few minutes.

The Chinese bill was again taken up and telegrams for and against it were read. Mr. Fairbanks of Indiana gave notice that he would speak on the bill tomorrow. Mr. Hittelfield (Dem., Idaho) then argued in support of the measure.

NAVY DEPARTMENT EXPLAINS POTTS' CASE

Testimony in Schley Court
Was No Inducement.

With reference to the published statements that Lieutenant Commander Temple M. Potts had been selected for assignment as naval attaché of the United States at Berlin, Rome, and Vienna, on account of his testimony against Admiral Schley before the Schley Court of Inquiry, it was said at the Navy Department today that Mr. Potts' application for the assignment was dated April 18, 1901, whereas the Schley court did not meet until September 12 of that year.

Furthermore, it was explained, there was no intention of detaching Commander William H. Beecher, the present attaché, until some time in the coming autumn. There were three applicants for the place, and as Mr. Potts was the first of these to apply it was the intention of the department to give him preference, but no selection was actually made and none will be until Commander Beecher retires from his tour of duty abroad.

ARCHBISHOP RYAN CHOSEN.

He Will Be Appointed on Board of Indian
Commissioners.

Archbishop Ryan has been decided upon by President Roosevelt as the successor of Bishop Whipple on the Board of Indian Commissioners. A vacancy has existed on the board ever since the death of Bishop Whipple.

BEEF TRUST CHARGES TO BE INVESTIGATED

No Action By Committee

The House Committee on Ju-
diary today decided that the
reply of Attorney General
Knox to Chairman Ray re-
lative to an investigation of the
affairs of the alleged Beef
Trust was adequate and that
the Thayer resolution should
not be adopted at this time. A
report describing the situation
was agreed upon by the com-
mittee and the correspondence
regarding the subject was
made public.

MR. KNOX ORDERS AN INQUIRY AT CHICAGO

Thorough Investigation of Al-
legations as to Beef Trust.

IS ANXIOUS FOR INFORMATION

The Attorney General Seeks to Learn the
Extent and Significance of the Re-
ported Combination of the Great Pack-
ing Concerns of the Country.

CHICAGO, April 15.—The "Chronicle" this morning says:

"Attorney General Knox has commanded United States District Attorney Bethea to begin an immediate investigation in Chicago of the so-called beef trust for the purpose of obtaining information which will enable the Department of Justice to take steps to dissolve the combination, if a combination exists."

"It is known that Mr. Knox has learned through channels which he deems accurate that the beef trust exists in the form of an agreement between the salaried managers for the great packing corporations, which control the meat industry of Chicago, St. Louis, Omaha, and Kansas City."

"Mr. Knox has learned also that similar agreements are maintained by the same corporation in connection with their other departments."

"For example, the managers of the provision departments of all of the great packing houses are said to have a trade agreement for the maintenance of prices, which is independent of the agreement existing between the managers of the meat departments. The same kind of an agreement is said to control the oleo business, the glue business, and, in fact, all the products of the packing houses."

"Good faith on the part of the several managers is guaranteed by placing in escrow large sums of money, which shall be forfeited if their owners are found to have violated the agreements. The Department of Justice has been unable to find out that the heads of the packing concerns, like Messrs. Swift, Armour, Morris & Cudahy, have ever entered into a mutual agreement. They leave that to their subordinates, and the results are said to be just as effective as if they themselves signed contracts."

"Incidentally, the Attorney General has ordered Mr. Bethea to investigate the charge that the packers have grown rich upon rebates from railways."

"The following correspondence on the subject was made public:

"April 12, 1902.
"Hon. Philander C. Knox, Attorney General, United States.
"Dear Sir: Kindly inform me: 1. Has your attention been called to the matter alleged in House resolution 233, a copy of which is annexed? 2. Have you been requested to take any official action in the matter? 3. Have you any evidence of the existence of such a combination?
Yours respectfully,
"GEORGE W. RAY,
"Chairman Committee on Judiciary."

"On the same day the Attorney General replied as follows:

"April 12, 1902.
"Hon. George W. Ray, Chairman Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives.
"Dear Sir: I have your letter of this date, enclosing a copy of House resolution No. 233, with reference to an alleged combination of six of the leading meat producers of this country, formed for the purpose of restricting and controlling trade and for raising the prices of the prime necessities of life, and asking me certain questions which I here repeat and answer in their order, not deeming such a course incompatible with the public interests."

"First—Has your attention been called to this matter alleged in House resolution 233, a copy of which is here enclosed?
"It has not, except so far as it is a matter of general notoriety."

"Second—Have you been requested to take any official action in the matter?
"I have not."

"Third—Have you any evidence of the existence of such a combination?
"None that could be classed as legal evidence."

"It is proper, I think, however, to add that owing to the positive, oft-repeated and circumstantial nature of the allegations, that the law is being flagrantly violated, I directed some time ago a thorough investigation to be made by one of the district attorneys of the United States, for the purpose of ascertaining whether in fact such combination existed, and whether, if so, its operations were in violation of any statute. Very respectfully yours,
"P. C. KNOX, Attorney General."

"It is apparent from this correspondence," the accompanying report says, "that there is no necessity for the adoption of the resolution."

"By reason of the widespread notoriety of the matter the Attorney General of the United States has already ordered a thorough investigation. There is no doubt he will perform his duty and prosecute all offenders, if offenders there be."

"It is evident that he should not be required to give in detail the steps already taken, as this would be to forewarn those who are violating the law and enable them to conceal evidence."

"It is also evident that this officer cannot state whether or not there has been an infringement of the law, as no evidence has been presented to him upon which to base an opinion, and no intelligent opinion can be given as to whether or not there has been an infringement of the law until the facts are fully ascertained."

"It is also evident that no legal steps can be taken toward a prosecution of the parties violating the law until a thorough investigation has been made."

"In short the letter of the Attorney General above quoted answers the resolutions as well as they can be or ought to be answered at this time."

Stricken on the Street.

Isaac Harris, an aged man, was this morning found lying on the corner of Sixth and N Streets northwest, in an unconscious condition. He was removed to the Homeopathic Hospital as quickly as possible, where it was found that he was suffering from an attack of vertigo.

Mr. Knox's Letter Satisfac-
tory to House Com-
mittee.

THAYER'S APPEAL UNAVAILING

No Necessity for the Adoption
of His Resolution.

INQUIRY ALREADY INSTITUTED

Efforts Under Way to Establish Whether
the Laws of the Nation Are Being
Violated by the Packers and Other
Large Concerns.

Representative Thayer (Dem., Mass.) this morning appeared before the House Committee on Judiciary to urge action on his resolution calling on the Attorney General for information relative to what steps he has taken to investigate the so-called beef trust. He made an impassioned appeal to the committee, begging them not to remain supine while laws were being violated and great trusts throttling the people.

The Republican members of the committee by their questions intimated the belief that Mr. Thayer was actuated by political motives, which he denied. He argued that the Attorney General ought to take notice of newspaper articles on the subject, although he intended no criticism of that official. Chairman Ray, of the committee, hinted that the newspapers are at liberty to place what information they have officially before the district attorney, who, no doubt, would do his duty. He did not believe that the Attorney General was bound to investigate any and all crimes upon nothing more tangible than newspaper reports. The committee then went into executive session.

After the executive session it was announced that the committee had decided to report the Thayer resolution back to the House with the recommendation that it lie on the table. This action was reported to be unanimous.

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